GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:192
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2017
Development of Chabahar Port
Gupta Shri Sudheer;Radhakrishnan Shri T.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the tripartite agreement among India, Afghanistan and Iran to develop Chabahar port in Iran;

(b) the total expenditure likely to be incurred on the said project;

(c) whether the said project has been delayed as Iran has failed to release its share of funds despite several reminders; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures taken/being taken by the Government to expedite the matter and start the project as early as possible?

Answer

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 192 REGARDING "DEVELOPMENT OF CHABAHAR PORT" FOR ANSWER ON 15.03.2017

During the visit of the Prime Minister to Iran in May 2016, a Trilateral Agreement to establish International Transport and Transit Corridor among India, Iran and Afghanistan was signed. India and Afghanistan have ratified the Agreement and Iran is in the process of completing its internal procedures for ratification.

A meeting of transport ministers of the three countries was held in New Delhi on 28 September 2016 and exchanged views on the next steps for the implementation of the trilateral agreement. It was, inter alia, decided to convene an Expert level meeting of senior officials of the three countries at Chabahar; evolve protocols on Transport and Transit, Ports, Customs Procedures and Consular Affairs; and to organize a connectivity event at Chabahar, Iran involving all stakeholders to increase awareness about the new opportunities offered by Chabahar Port. The three sides are in consultation for convening these follow-up meetings.

A commercial contract for the development and operations of Chabahar Port between India Ports Global Private Ltd (IPGPL) (a consortium of Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust and Kandla Port Trust) and Iran's Arya Banader was signed during the visit of Prime Minister to Iran in May 2016. Ministry of Shipping, Government of India and Port and Maritime Organization of Iran signed the contract as Confirming Parties. As per the contact India will construct two terminals (five berths) at Chabahar Port according to the specifications agreed under the Inter-Governmental MoU signed between India and Iran on 5 May 2015. This involves investment of an amount of nearly US Dollars 85 million for procurement of port equipment. Besides, India has agreed to provide US Dollars 150 million credit facility to Iran through Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank) for Chabahar Port development.